

Application No.: 10/594,276

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:*Please amend the Abstract as follows:*

-- A secondary battery of the present invention comprises having an electrode assembly in which ~~[[a]]~~ strip-shaped positive and negative electrode plates ~~plate and a strip-shaped negative electrode plate~~ are spirally wound with a strip-shaped separator interposed therebetween, the positive and negative electrode plates ~~plate~~ comprising a ~~positive electrode~~ current collector and a ~~positive electrode~~ material mixture layer carried thereon, ~~and the negative electrode plate comprising a negative electrode current collector and a negative electrode material mixture layer carried thereon.~~ The positive electrode plate has, in a vicinity of a first end at an initial winding side, an exposed portion of the positive electrode current collector having the no positive electrode material mixture layer ~~not~~ formed thereon and a positive electrode lead connected to the exposed portion. A first winding turn outwardly adjacent to a connecting portion of the positive electrode lead with the separator interposed therebetween and a second winding turn outwardly adjacent to the first winding turn with the separator interposed therebetween comprise a portion of the negative electrode plate carrying the negative electrode material mixture layer.--